

REMARKS

I. Status of the Application

Claims 38, 39, 43, 56-72, 85, and 87-96 are pending in the application, with claims 38, 39, 43, 56 and 91-93 being rejected. Claims 57-72, 85, 87-90, and 94-96 are merely objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. Claims 85 and 87-90 were found to be allowable.

Claims 38, 57, 70, 85, and 91 have been amended. Claims 69 and 96 have been cancelled. The amendments to the claims introduce no new matter.

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication of allowability for claims 85 and 87-90.

Claim 69 was indicated by the Examiner to be allowable if rewritten in independent form, including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Independent claim 38, from which claim 69 depends directly, has been amended to incorporate the language of claim 69. Therefore, Applicants believe claim 38 is allowable. Additionally, dependent claims 43 and 56, which depend from claim 38, are believed to be in condition for allowance. Further, claim 70 has been amended to depend directly from claim 38, and is, therefore, also allowable.

Claim 57 was indicated by the Examiner to be allowable if rewritten in independent form, including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 57 depends directly from independent claim 38. Claim 57 is amended to be in independent form and to incorporate the language of claim 38. Therefore, Applicants believe claim 57 is allowable. Additionally, dependant claims 58-68 and 71-72, which depend from claim 57, are believed to be in condition for allowance.

Claim 96 was indicated by the Examiner to be allowable if rewritten in independent form, including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Independent claim 91, from which claim 96 depends directly, has been amended to incorporate the language of claim 96. Therefore, Applicants believe claim 91 is allowable. Additionally, dependent claims 92-95, which depend from claim 91, are believed to be in condition for allowance.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the claim rejections and re-examination of the application in view of the presented remarks.

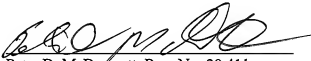
II. Conclusion

Applicants request that the amendments presented above be entered and that the application be reconsidered. Applicants submit that all claims pending in the application are now in condition for allowance.

It is believed that no fee is required for this submission. If any fees are required, or if an overpayment is made, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any such fees or credit any overpayment of fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0733.

Respectfully submitted,

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